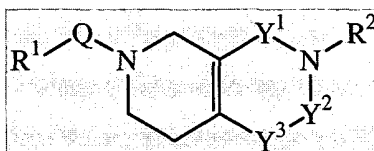


CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

5

1. A compound of Formula I



I

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, or a pyrido-N-oxide thereof,
wherein:

10

R¹ is independently selected from:

C₅ or C₆ cycloalkyl-(C₁-C₈ alkylenyl);

Substituted C₅ or C₆ cycloalkyl-(C₁-C₈ alkylenyl);

C₈-C₁₀ bicycloalkyl-(C₁-C₈ alkylenyl);

Substituted C₈-C₁₀ bicycloalkyl-(C₁-C₈ alkylenyl);

15

5- or 6-membered heterocycloalkyl-(C₁-C₈ alkylenyl);

Substituted 5- or 6-membered heterocycloalkyl-(C₁-C₈ alkylenyl);

8- to 10-membered heterobicycloalkyl-(C₁-C₈ alkylenyl);

Substituted 8- to 10-membered heterobicycloalkyl-(C₁-C₈ alkylenyl);

Phenyl-(C₁-C₈ alkylenyl);

20

Substituted phenyl-(C₁-C₈ alkylenyl);

Naphthyl-(C₁-C₈ alkylenyl);

Substituted naphthyl-(C₁-C₈ alkylenyl);

5- or 6-membered heteroaryl-(C₁-C₈ alkylenyl);

Substituted 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl-(C₁-C₈ alkylenyl);

25

8- to 10-membered heterobiaryl-(C₁-C₈ alkylenyl);

Substituted 8- to 10-membered heterobiaryl-(C₁-C₈ alkylenyl);

Phenyl;

Substituted phenyl;

Naphthyl;

30

Substituted naphthyl;

5- or 6-membered heteroaryl;

Substituted 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl;

8- to 10-membered heterobiaryl; and

Substituted 8- to 10-membered heterobiaryl;

R² is independently selected from:

- 5 H;
 C₁-C₆ alkyl;
 Phenyl-(C₁-C₈ alkylenyl);
 Substituted phenyl-(C₁-C₈ alkylenyl);
 Naphthyl-(C₁-C₈ alkylenyl);
10 Substituted naphthyl-(C₁-C₈ alkylenyl);
 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl-(C₁-C₈ alkylenyl);
 Substituted 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl-(C₁-C₈ alkylenyl);
 8- to 10-membered heterobiaryl-(C₁-C₈ alkylenyl);
 Substituted 8- to 10-membered heterobiaryl-(C₁-C₈ alkylenyl);
15 Phenyl-O-(C₁-C₈ alkylenyl);
 Substituted phenyl-O-(C₁-C₈ alkylenyl);
 Phenyl-S-(C₁-C₈ alkylenyl);
 Substituted phenyl-S-(C₁-C₈ alkylenyl);
 Phenyl-S(O)-(C₁-C₈ alkylenyl);
20 Substituted phenyl-S(O)-(C₁-C₈ alkylenyl);
 Phenyl-S(O)₂-(C₁-C₈ alkylenyl); and
 Substituted phenyl-S(O)₂-(C₁-C₈ alkylenyl);

Each substituted R¹ and R² group contains from 1 to 4 substituents, each independently on a carbon or nitrogen atom, independently selected from:

- 25 C₁-C₆ alkyl;
 CN;
 CF₃;
 HO;
 (C₁-C₆ alkyl)-O;
30 (C₁-C₆ alkyl)-S(O)₂;
 H₂N;
 (C₁-C₆ alkyl)-N(H);
 (C₁-C₆ alkyl)₂-N;

- $(C_1-C_6 \text{ alkyl})-C(O)O-(C_1-C_8 \text{ alkylenyl})_m$;
 $(C_1-C_6 \text{ alkyl})-C(O)O-(1 \text{ to } 8\text{-membered heteroalkylenyl})_m$;
 $(C_1-C_6 \text{ alkyl})-C(O)N(H)-(C_1-C_8 \text{ alkylenyl})_m$;
 $(C_1-C_6 \text{ alkyl})-C(O)N(H)-(1 \text{ to } 8\text{-membered heteroalkylenyl})_m$;
5 $H_2NS(O)_2-(C_1-C_8 \text{ alkylenyl})$;
 $(C_1-C_6 \text{ alkyl})-N(H)S(O)_2-(C_1-C_8 \text{ alkylenyl})_m$;
 $(C_1-C_6 \text{ alkyl})_2-NS(O)_2-(C_1-C_8 \text{ alkylenyl})_m$;
3- to 6-membered heterocycloalkyl-(G)_m;
Substituted 3- to 6-membered heterocycloalkyl-(G)_m;
10 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl-(G)_m;
Substituted 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl-(G)_m;
 $(C_1-C_6 \text{ alkyl})-S(O)_2-N(H)-C(O)-(C_1-C_8 \text{ alkylenyl})_m$; and
 $(C_1-C_6 \text{ alkyl})-C(O)-N(H)-S(O)_2-(C_1-C_8 \text{ alkylenyl})_m$;

wherein each substituent on a carbon atom may further be independently selected

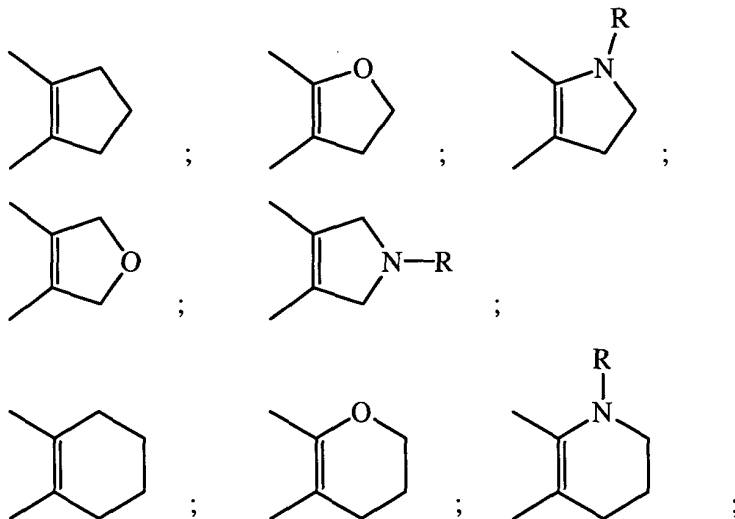
15 from:

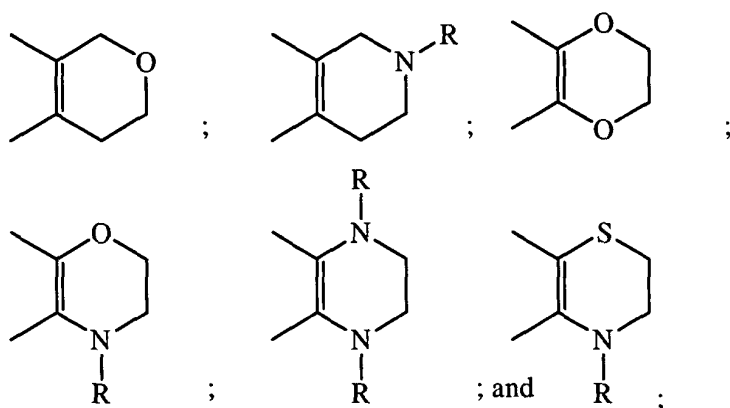
Halo; and

HO₂C;

wherein 2 substituents may be taken together with a carbon atom to which they are both bonded to form the group C=O;

20 wherein two adjacent, substantially sp² carbon atoms may be taken together with a diradical substituent to form a cyclic diradical selected from:





R is H or C₁-C₆ alkyl;

G is CH₂; O, S, S(O); or S(O)₂;

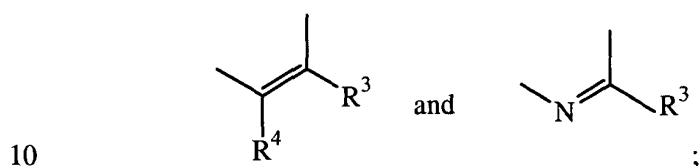
5 m is an integer of 0 or 1;

Y¹ is CH₂, C(O), or S(O)₂;

Y² is C(O);

Y³ is N(R⁴); or

Y² and Y³ may be taken together to form a diradical group selected from:



R³ is independently selected from the groups:

H;

CH₃;

CH₃O;

15 CH=CH₂;

HO;

CF₃;

CN;

F; and

20 Cl;

R⁴ is independently selected from the groups:

H;

CH₃;

CH₃O;

HO;

CF₃; and

CN; and

wherein R⁴ is bonded to a carbon atom, R⁴ may further independently be

5 halo or CO₂H;

Q is selected from:

OC(O);

CH(R⁵)C(O);

OC(NR⁵);

10 CH(R⁵)C(NR⁵);

N(R⁵)C(O);

N(R⁵)C(S);

N(R⁵)C(NR⁵);

CH₂N(R⁵);

15 SC(O);

CH(R⁵)C(S);

SC(NR⁵);

trans-(H)C=C(H);

cis-(H)C=C(H);

20 C≡C;

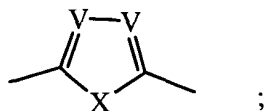
CH₂C≡C;

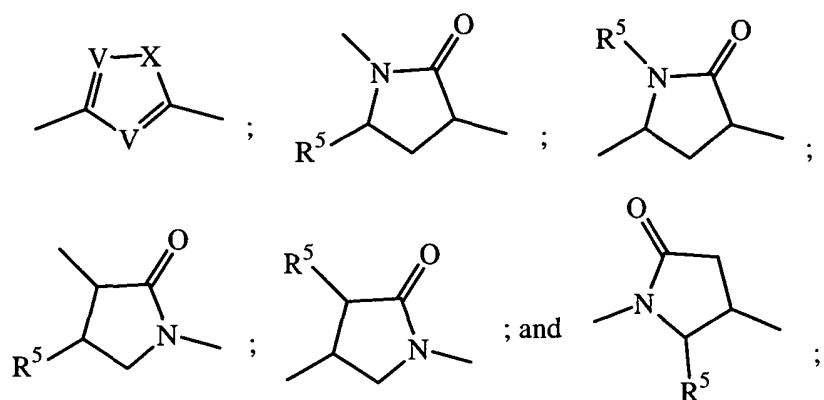
C≡CCH₂;

CF₂C≡C; and

C≡CCF₂;

25 C≡CC(O);





Each R^5 is independently selected from: H, C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_3 - C_6 cycloalkyl; 3- to 6-membered heterocycloalkyl; phenyl; benzyl; and 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl;

5 X is O, S, N(H), or N(C_1 - C_6 alkyl);

Each V is independently C(H) or N;

wherein each C_8 - C_{10} bicycloalkyl is a bicyclic carbocyclic ring that contains 8-, 9-, or 10-member carbon atoms which are 5,5-fused, 6,5-fused, or 6,6-fused bicyclic rings, respectively, and wherein the ring is saturated or optionally contains one carbon-carbon double bond;

10 wherein each 8- to 10-membered heterobicycloalkyl is a bicyclic ring that contains carbon atoms and from 1 to 4 heteroatoms independently selected from 2 O, 1 S, 1 S(O), 1 S(O)₂, 1 N, 4 N(H), and 4 N(C_1 - C_6 alkyl), and wherein when two O atoms or one O atom and one S atom are present, the two O atoms or one O atom and one S atom are not bonded to each other, and wherein the ring is saturated or optionally contains one carbon-carbon or carbon-nitrogen double bond, and wherein the heterobicycloalkyl is a 5,5-fused, 6,5-fused, or 6,6-fused bicyclic ring, respectively,

15 wherein each heterocycloalkyl is a ring that contains carbon atoms and from 1 to 4 heteroatoms independently selected from 2 O, 1 S, 1 S(O), 1 S(O)₂, 1 N, 4 N(H), and 4 N(C_1 - C_6 alkyl), and wherein when two O atoms or one O atom and one S atom are present, the two O atoms or one O atom and one S atom are not bonded to each other, and wherein the ring is saturated or optionally contains one carbon-carbon or carbon-nitrogen double bond;

20

wherein each 5-membered heteroaryl contains carbon atoms and from 1 to 4 heteroatoms independently selected from 1 O, 1 S, 1 N(H), 1 N(C₁-C₆ alkyl), and 4 N, and each 6-membered heteroaryl contains carbon atoms and 1 or 2 heteroatoms independently selected from N, N(H), and N(C₁-C₆ alkyl), and 5- and 6-membered heteroaryl are monocyclic rings;

wherein each heterobiaryl contains carbon atoms and from 1 to 4 heteroatoms independently selected from 1 O, 1 S, 1 N(H), 1 N(C₁-C₆ alkyl), and 4 N, and where the 8-, 9-, and 10-membered heterobiaryl are 5,5-fused, 6,5-fused, and 6,6-fused bicyclic rings, respectively, and wherein at least 1 of the 2 fused rings of a bicyclic ring is aromatic, and wherein when the O and S atoms both are present, the O and S atoms are not bonded to each other;

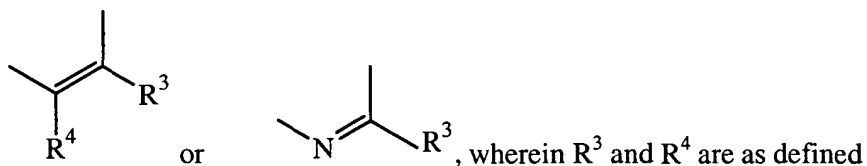
wherein with any (C₁-C₆ alkyl)₂-N group, the C₁-C₆ alkyl groups may be optionally taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached to form a 5- or 6-membered heterocycloalkyl; and

wherein each group and each substituent recited above is independently selected.

2. The compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein Y¹ is CH₂, C(=O), or S(O)₂ and Q is N(R⁵)C(O) or C≡C, wherein R⁵ is as defined above.

3. The compound according to Claim 2, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein Y² is C(=O).

4. The compound according to Claim 2, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein Y² and Y³ are taken together to form the diradical group



above.

5. The compound according to any one of Claims 1 to 4, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein R^1 is independently selected from:

- Phenyl-(C_1 - C_8 alkylenyl);
- 5 Substituted phenyl-(C_1 - C_8 alkylenyl);
- 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl-(C_1 - C_8 alkylenyl);
- Substituted 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl-(C_1 - C_8 alkylenyl);
- 8- to 10-membered heterobiaryl-(C_1 - C_8 alkylenyl); and
- Substituted 8- to 10-membered heterobiaryl-(C_1 - C_8 alkylenyl); and

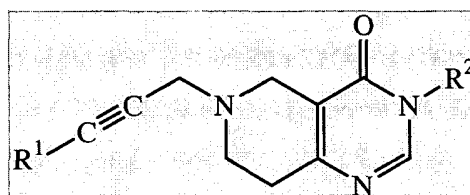
10 R^2 is independently selected from:

- Phenyl-(C_1 - C_8 alkylenyl) $_m$;
- Substituted phenyl-(C_1 - C_8 alkylenyl) $_m$;
- 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl-(C_1 - C_8 alkylenyl) $_m$;
- Substituted 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl-(C_1 - C_8 alkylenyl) $_m$;
- 15 8- to 10-membered heterobiaryl-(C_1 - C_8 alkylenyl) $_m$; and
- Substituted 8- to 10-membered heterobiaryl-(C_1 - C_8 alkylenyl) $_m$;

wherein m is an integer of 0 or 1; and

wherein each group and each substituent is independently selected.

20 6. A compound of Formula II



II

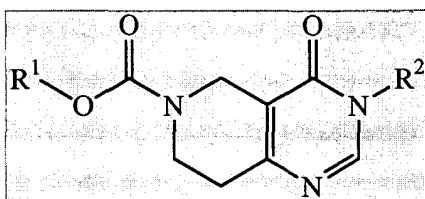
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, or a pyrido-N-oxide thereof.

7. The compound of Formula II according to Claim 6, selected from:

- 25 3-Benzyl-6-(3-phenyl-prop-2-ynyl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-3H-pyrido[4,3-d]pyrimidin-4-one;
- 6-(3-Phenyl-prop-2-ynyl)-3-pyridin-4-ylmethyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-3H-pyrido[4,3-d]pyrimidin-4-one;

- 4-[4-Oxo-6-(3-phenyl-prop-2-ynyl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-4H-pyrido[4,3-d]pyrimidin-3-ylmethyl]-benzoic acid;
- 4-[4-Oxo-6-(3-phenyl-prop-2-ynyl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-4H-pyrido[4,3-d]pyrimidin-3-ylmethyl]-benzonitrile;
- 5 6-(3-Phenyl-prop-2-ynyl)-3-[4-(1H-tetrazol-5-yl)-benzyl]-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-3H-pyrido[4,3-d]pyrimidin-4-one;
- 3-Biphenyl-4-ylmethyl-6-(3-phenyl-prop-2-ynyl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-3H-pyrido[4,3-d]pyrimidin-4-one;
- 6-(3-Phenyl-prop-2-ynyl)-3-(4-pyridin-4-yl-benzyl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-3H-pyrido[4,3-d]pyrimidin-4-one;
- 10 3-(4-Furan-3-yl-benzyl)-6-(3-phenyl-prop-2-ynyl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-3H-pyrido[4,3-d]pyrimidin-4-one;
- 3-(4-Furan-2-yl-benzyl)-6-(3-phenyl-prop-2-ynyl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-3H-pyrido[4,3-d]pyrimidin-4-one;
- 15 6-(3-Phenyl-prop-2-ynyl)-3-(4-thiophen-3-yl-benzyl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-3H-pyrido[4,3-d]pyrimidin-4-one;
- 6-(3-Phenyl-prop-2-ynyl)-3-(4-thiophen-2-yl-benzyl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-3H-pyrido[4,3-d]pyrimidin-4-one;
- 6-(3-Phenyl-prop-2-ynyl)-3-(4-thiophen-3-yl-benzyl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-3H-pyrido[4,3-d]pyrimidin-4-one;
- 20 6-(3-Phenyl-prop-2-ynyl)-3-[4-(1H-pyrrol-2-yl)-benzyl]-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-3H-pyrido[4,3-d]pyrimidin-4-one;
- 3-[4-(1-Methyl-1H-pyrrol-3-yl)-benzyl]-6-(3-phenyl-prop-2-ynyl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-3H-pyrido[4,3-d]pyrimidin-4-one; and
- 25 3-[4-(1-Methyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl)-benzyl]-6-(3-phenyl-prop-2-ynyl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-3H-pyrido[4,3-d]pyrimidin-4-one; or
- a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

8. A compound of Formula III



III

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, or a pyrido-N-oxide thereof.

9. The compound of Formula III according to Claim 8, selected from:
 - 5 3-Benzyl-4-oxo-3,5,7,8-tetrahydro-4H-pyrido[4,3-d]pyrimidine-6-carboxylic acid benzyl ester;
 - 3-Benzyl-4-oxo-3,5,7,8-tetrahydro-4H-pyrido[4,3-d]pyrimidine-6-carboxylic acid pyridin-4-ylmethyl ester;
 - 3-Benzyl-4-oxo-3,5,7,8-tetrahydro-4H-pyrido[4,3-d]pyrimidine-6-carboxylic acid 2-methoxy-pyridin-4-ylmethyl ester;
 - 10 3-Benzyl-4-oxo-3,5,7,8-tetrahydro-4H-pyrido[4,3-d]pyrimidine-6-carboxylic acid 3-methoxy-benzyl ester;
 - 3-Benzyl-4-oxo-3,5,7,8-tetrahydro-4H-pyrido[4,3-d]pyrimidine-6-carboxylic acid 4-methoxy-benzyl ester;
 - 15 3-Benzyl-4-oxo-3,5,7,8-tetrahydro-4H-pyrido[4,3-d]pyrimidine-6-carboxylic acid 4-fluoro-benzyl ester;
 - 3-Benzyl-4-oxo-3,5,7,8-tetrahydro-4H-pyrido[4,3-d]pyrimidine-6-carboxylic acid 4-chloro-benzyl ester;
 - 3-Benzyl-4-oxo-3,5,7,8-tetrahydro-4H-pyrido[4,3-d]pyrimidine-6-carboxylic acid 4-bromo-benzyl ester;
 - 20 3-Benzyl-4-oxo-3,5,7,8-tetrahydro-4H-pyrido[4,3-d]pyrimidine-6-carboxylic acid 4-iodo-benzyl ester;
 - 3-Benzyl-4-oxo-3,5,7,8-tetrahydro-4H-pyrido[4,3-d]pyrimidine-6-carboxylic acid 4-dimethylamino-benzyl ester; and
 - 25 3-Benzyl-4-oxo-3,5,7,8-tetrahydro-4H-pyrido[4,3-d]pyrimidine-6-carboxylic acid 4-methylsulfanyl-benzyl ester; or
- a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

10. A pharmaceutical composition, comprising a compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, admixed with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, excipient, or diluent.
- 5 11. The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 10, comprising a compound according to Claim 7 or 9, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, admixed with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, excipient, or diluent.
- 10 12. A method for treating arthritis, comprising administering to a patient suffering from an arthritis disease a nontoxic antiarthritic effective amount of a compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
- 15 13. The method according to Claim 12, wherein the arthritis is osteoarthritis or rheumatoid arthritis.
14. The method according to Claim 13, wherein the compound according to Claim 1 is a compound according to Claim 7 or 9.